



Attorney's Docket No.: 10559-133001 / P7872

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S. Sand
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Gilbert Wolrich et al.

Art Unit : 2739

Serial No. : 09/476,303

Examiner : Hunt, Eric T.

Filed : December 30, 1999

Title : PORT BLOCKING TECHNIQUE FOR MAINTAINING RECEIVE PACKET
ORDERING FOR A MULTIPLE ETHERNET PORT SWITCH

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Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE TO ACTION DATED AUGUST 26, 2002

Please amend the claims as follows (all claims and their status are reproduced for convenience, including claims that are not being amended):

1. (amended) A method for receiving data from a plurality of ports for processing by a plurality of processes, comprising:

assigning one of the plurality of ports to one of the plurality of processes;

determining that additional data is available from the assigned port; and

awaiting notification by the one of the plurality of processes that processing of the

additional data has been completed prior to re-assigning the port to one of the plurality of processes.

2. (unamended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining if data is available from one of the plurality of ports

3. (unamended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting one of the plurality of processes.

4. (unamended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:

directing transfer of the data from the assigned port to the one of the plurality of

processes for processing.

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I hereby certify under 37 CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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